

TO A MAID DEMURE.

Often when the night is come,
While the quiet group at home,
Read, or chat in voices low,
Suddenly you lift your eye
With an earnest look, and see
But I can not read their lore—
Tell me more, or tell me less.

Like a picture in a book,
Pure and peaceful is your look,
Quietly you walk your way;
Standfast duty fills the day,
Neither tears nor smiles delude,
Fervid dreams nor losing nights,
Any troubles dreams confess—
Tell me more, or tell me less.

LADIES' MUSTACHES.

Removing Them With a Gold Needle and Battery.

Electricity and Acids as Destroyers of Cuticular Blemishes—Big Freckles, Blanches, Wrinkles Eradicated, Warts and Birth-Marks Washed Away.

A pale young man, wearing a generally lean and hungry look and a specific brown mole on the epidermis just over his right cheek bone, passed down Fourth and up one of the cross streets at about nine o'clock last Sunday morning. When he rang the bell at the doorway of a trim brick building near Fifth street the mole on his cheek was decorated with a growth of hair which might have given his mustache odds and then beaten it by a hundred and fifty points. When he emerged, twenty minutes later, the mole was bleached to a pale tan color, and the growth of hair was gone.

"Is the doctor in?" he asked, upon servant's answering his ring.

"Yes, sir; step upstairs, please."

There were about a dozen steps to step up before the comfortably-fitted figure of the doctor met him on the velvet rug at the open door of the consultation-room. The doctor was young, but a few gray hairs in his otherwise sandy mustache and an intellectual thinning of his hair in the region of the occiput told that he was not too young, but just young enough.

"Can I remove those hairs from the mole on your cheek?" he repeated in answer to the young man's question.

"Yes, sir, I most certainly can do so, and not only that, but I can remove the mole as well."

"How much?"

"From a nominal up to an indefinite price."

"If you wish the hairs taken away temporarily and a bottle of depilatory with which you may remove them yourself in after times, the charge will be nominal; but if you wish the hair eradicated root and branch, so that it will never return, and the mole colored to the normal condition of the cuticle, the operation will require several sittings and the charge be correspondingly increased. Excuse me, one minute."

He touched his finger to the hairy mole and examined it closely for a second.

"There are just nine strong hairs on this blemish," he said. "I can remove them with electricity at one sitting; but the removal of the discoloration will be a work of at least four operations."

"Fire away."

"Take a seat in that chair, please." He indicated a plush-covered arm-chair with a rounded head-rest, and after the victim was seated he brought out from an inner room a black leather box, from which he drew the insulated wires which accompany every electric battery. To the end of one of the wires was affixed a sponge electrode and to the other a very slender, horn-pointed needle was delicately clamped.

"Now then," he said, pushing back his cuffs with that brisk, professional air which is associated with the tender memories of dental experience, "this box contains an eight-cell electric battery. This sponge, which you will grasp in your right hand, please—ah, thank you—is the positive pole. This needle—made of gold, because that metal is susceptible of being brought to a much finer point than the finest steel needle, and the finer the point naturally the smaller will be the puncture which it will make in your skin; this needle is the negative pole. When the needle penetrates the skin and touches the root of the hair it thus completes the circuit, and a current of electricity rushes like lightning to the point of the instrument, and blasts the young hair in its prime—in fact, it kills it. Now don't start, please; sit perfectly still."

The young man felt a slight tingling when the needle point entered the cuticle. The tingling continued for about ten seconds, and a single coarse black hair dropped from his face and floated to the floor. After a similar operation had been performed eight times his cheek was as smooth as an infant's, and, beyond a slight suffusion of blood to the part, making the skin rosy and reddening the obnoxious color of the mole, there were no visible effects of the punctures.

"That hair will never come back. It is not often that I remove nine hairs from a single spot at one sitting; but you skin is so thick that I judged the ensuing inflammation would not be much, and that you could safely stand the operation; but I think it will be as well to wait two or three days before we begin to reduce the other trouble—the discoloration. Under no circumstances do I ever pull more than a dozen hairs with electricity at one sitting, and then I make it a point not to remove them in one spot, but to take them one by one from as large an area as possible. For instance, in removing objectionable mustaches from ladies' upper lips—and that is a profitable branch of my business—I first remove a hair from the extreme right end of the mustache, then from the extreme left; then from the center, and so on. By the way, have you ever noticed that

generally in ladies' mustaches are straight—that is, they grow in a straight, evenly marked line across the lip, and the ends are sharply defined? It is the truth, and another point is that there are rarely more than fifty vigorous hairs in a female mustache, so that few of them can be removed in five or six sittings. I had a case the other day of allaying the inflammation caused by some charitable endeavoring to uproot a whole mustache of thirty-five hairs at a single sitting. He did it, but the punishment gave the young lady a wounded upper lip, which will be rough and more or less scarred for the next six months.

"However, most ladies are afraid of the electrical treatment, preferring the depilatories, which, while not always permanent in their effects, will remove an entire mustache at one application without pain, and when continued will generally kill the papillae in time. Let me show you how they do their perfect work on the back of your hand."

With a small camel's hair brush the doctor applied a watery liquid to a spot as large as a silver half-dollar on the hairy back of the visitor's hand. It grew warm, almost hot, for a moment, and the hair began to shrivel up and gradually disappear. In a few minutes the spot was dry, all the hair had disappeared and the place was as smooth as the center of one's palm.

"Science is a great thing, young man. That acid is composed of a number of caustics, and in sufficient quantity will eat a hole through one's hand; but when applied according to directions it merely dissolves the hair, as you have seen. In fact, in the present state of the world's progress it is not necessary for the fair sex to suffer with any blemishes. Wrinkles disappear, freckles fade, pock-marks fill up, birth-marks are bleached, and even red noses made white by the action of acids skillfully applied."

"Has science turned its attention to the alcoholic nose?"

"Yes, sir; but you must not connect all red noses with the abuse of stimulants. The corset lace is quite as effective an agent in inducing abnormal rubricity of the nasal organ."

"The doctor pauses here while the visitor made note of the phrase on his shirt-cuff. "The corset lace, I say, is quite as effective an agent in producing red noses as the whisky bottle. In most cases a red nose is the work of years, and it is generally accompanied by a thickening of the skin, which sometimes rounds out in spots, producing the bulbous blossom. In all cases the blood-vessels upon the surface are stimulated and enlarged, and it is to the reduction of these vessels, both in size and number, that our treatment is directed. The acid checks the flow of the blood which gives the color by shrinking the veins."

"Now about freckles, warts and moles. They are all removed by pretty much the same treatment; and while the instruments look simple enough, being nothing but a bottle of water-looking acid and a camel's hair brush, in unskillful hands they are like money in a spendthrift's pocket—bound to burn. In the nature of things an acid which will eat away a wart or bleach out the coloring matter which is imbedded between the outer skin and the cut's vera, or true skin, beneath, in a mole or freckle, must be powerful; but like a strong horse, when rightly directed, it is only powerful for good."

The idea of removing freckles or warts with baths of buttermilk or other mild agents is only less ridiculous than the charming away of warts with bits of knotted string. And yet there are otherwise sensible people who believe in both these remedies.

"Warts are merely enlargements of the tissue, each containing a single blood-vessel, which feels it, while moles are sometimes enlargements, in fact, small tumors, and sometimes merely discolorations. Freckles and moths patches belong to the same family as the moles, and when the latter are not accompanied by the tumor phase all are treated alike—that is, by the application of an acid which opens the pores and causes the coloring matter to exude and dry up. Wrinkles, pock-marks and scars are all cured by the application of an oil which, with gentle rubbing by the hands, breaks up the hard tissue forming them, starts the circulation of blood through the parts, and thus builds up a healthy growth of muscle which fills up the depressions."

"All these things are as simple as A, B and C, and when we learn how to do it it is just as easy to remove a blemish from the skin of a lady's face as it is to remove the same stain or blemish from a piece of cloth or paper. Take a birth-mark, for instance. There are hundreds of persons moving about the city, disfigured with purple or scarlet blotches on their faces, who imagine it is necessary that their lives should be made miserable by these blemishes, when a little thought ought to teach them that bleaching is a simple process, whether applied to broom-straw or the human skin."

"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

NEW YORK STYLES.

Suggestions for Ladies Who Would Dress Well and Fashionably.

Newmarkets show few changes, except the almost universal addition of a cape. A few hoods are seen, but the plain coachman's cape is preferred. Nearly all fine garments are lined throughout with satin or twilled silk, and the general finish is similar to that on men's light overcoats. But few double-breasted long garments are seen in the more expensive styles.

Jerseys are in high favor and are brought out in very desirable styles. Some new patterns are covered with iridescent beads and tracings. All fine jerseys are now cut like dress waists, are waisted in at the seams and have an inside belt. A perfectly fitted plain corset cover of linen or coutille is worn by many ladies under the jersey and adds much to the style of the garment.

The Souvartoff jacket is a new model much in vogue. It fastens with one button only at the neck, and is rounded off over the hips, remaining open all the way down over a plastron or chemise. At the back it forms a small basque arranged in hollow plaits; it is edged all round with fancy galloon or embroidery. The same trimming is put on over the sleeve from the shoulder to the wrist and round the lower edge; it is a plain coat-sleeve.

Belts of ivory-leather, which have raised figures in the color of old ivory on a gray ground, are chosen for use with gray costumes, and a similar style with the pattern on a brown ground is worn with brown dresses. White undressed kid belts, delicate and lovely to look at, are in high favor for use with house

IMAGINARY ILLS.

Queer Notions Entertained by Many Thin Men and Women.

A young man hastened into a drug store on West Madison street the other day, and with a quick step was soon at the side of the proprietor.

"Doctor," said he, addressing the drug's, and speaking in rapid, nervous voice which betrayed his excitement, "this little scratch on my hand was made by a rusty nail—it's bothering me a good deal; you know how it comes in this way. Try and fix me up all right."

The physician looked at his patient closely for a moment and saw a slender young man about twenty-six years old, with thin, delicate features, a smooth skin, and long, slender hands. "A highly nervous temperament," the physician said to himself, then glanced at the wounded palm which had sent him his patient.

It was a little bruise, about the size of a half-penny, a deep-red color in the center where the skin had been torn and fading into a pink shade toward the sides.

"Sore?" asked the physician.

"Well, not very painful," replied the young man, "only it bothers me. I scratched the palm of my hand on an old plank and got this. Of course it doesn't amount to anything now, but I am afraid it might lead to lockjaw if something isn't done. I'd rather get the start of lockjaw than to have it get the start of me. I want something to head off that malady if possible."

The young man spoke with his accustomed rapidity. He was in an acute nervous state.

"You have something, doctor?" he asked, and the physician replied:

"Oh, yes; I'll fix you out in no time." The man of drugs went behind his counter, busied himself with a number of big bottles for a brief while, then emerged with a small vial in his hand and told his patient to swallow a teaspoonful of the mixture once every few hours and to come to the drug store the next day and report how he was getting along. The young man walked rapidly away, and as he disappeared down the street the physician remarked:

"Now, he'll run to his room and swallow that stuff as I told him to do, and it won't have any more effect on him than so much drinking water."

"Why," exclaimed the layman, who was an eye-witness to the scene, "didn't that medicine intended to ward off lockjaw? That is what he asked for."

"He'll have no more lockjaw than you," declared the drug man, in a merry voice. "Why, there is absolutely nothing whatever the matter with him. That wound in his hand, a mere scratch. He would never have noticed it if he hadn't got hold of some blamed box or paper telling how easy lockjaw is caused. You saw how thin he was, how excited he talked. Well, the young man is constitutionally nervous. He got that scratch on his hand and his nervous fears at once conjured up the terrors of lockjaw, so he posted off here to me."

"I had to do something for him, though, if I didn't some one else would. But the whole truth of the matter is that his case simply illustrates the truth of the old saying that 'a little learning is a dangerous thing.' If he hadn't read that silly stuff about lockjaw and allowed his fears to get the best of him he'd be several dollars ahead just now and in a much better frame of mind, too."

"Do you have many such cases where people come to you for the relief from a danger that does not threaten them?"

"Lots. The hydrophobia craze—or crank—is the better word—is represented here every day. Men and women, some of them with a tiny scratch on a finger which they say was caused by a dog's tooth, want medicine to neutralize the poison they think is in their system. Half the time these scratches are not made by a dog at all, but the people think they are, because possibly they may have caressed a little dog some time during the day. The other half are deluded by fear, but they are really concerned in having a physician attend them, and, of course, that is what I am here for."

"Any other cases?"

"Yes, the drunkard who thinks he is going to have delirium tremens. The nervous state following a debauch is prolific of some exciting fancies, not the least of which is that the victim believes he is going to have the jim-jams. These cases, however, require medical care."

—Chicago News.

MEXICAN SCENERY.

A Region Where One Can Find Perpetual Summer and Eternal Snow.

General Jackson, ex-Minister to Mexico, says: "The scenery of Mexico exceeds anything in the world that has ever come under my observation, either on this continent or in Europe. The City of Mexico is 7,400 feet above the level of the sea. It is in what is called the cold country. Next to it, toward the Gulf, is the temperate country, and from there one passes into the hot country. The country about Jalapa was pronounced by Humboldt the garden spot of the world. It is distinguished from all other grand and beautiful scenery in the world by the fact that at the foot of Mount Orizaba there reigns perpetual summer, while the mountain itself rises into the region of eternal snow. I have seen the mountains of Switzerland, but I never saw one that I thought comparable in grandeur and beauty to Orizaba. I have watched upon an orange tree the development of the fruit from the bud, through the blossom to the ripe orange, covered in the very sight of the snow-covered mountains. I have drunk ice-water flowing from Orizaba, and at the same time had in reach splendid ripe pineapples."

—N. Y. Post.

"But, did you ever stop to think?" said a grocer recently, "what these raised figures in the color of old ivory on a gray ground, are chosen for use with gray costumes, and a similar style with the pattern on a brown ground is worn with brown dresses. White undressed kid belts, delicate and lovely to look at, are in high favor for use with house

dresses of white serge and similar goods. The better qualities are lined with satin, and some of the newest are fastened with two buckles and narrow straps.

New woollens are in pretty arabesque patterns in camellia shades of a darker ground. The skirts are arranged in series of small plaits, alternating with large single ones, except at the back which, which is slightly draped into a puff. On the left side of this puff the plaits are caught up with long loops and ends of ribbon, thus showing the underskirt, which is of plain silk or cashmere, with several rows of velvet or braid round the bottom and a narrow fluting showing just beyond the edge.

The fronts are plaited and crossed over, coming down into a point a little below the waist line; the back is notched out and forms a small basque. Coat sleeves with puffed cuffs.

Feather trimming, such as is used for wraps, is used in facings and bindings for bonnets and hats. Dressy bonnets of open-meshed wire netting string with beads will be worn until very late in the season, and with lace dresses and lace-trimmed toilets throughout the winter; lined, of course, with suitable material as the season advances.

Feather and bead coronets are popular, and tiny feather pompons of graduated lengths, from the tips of bonnets, bead trimmings of all sorts, bead balls, wire-strung jet, and every imaginable disposition of beads will be used in winter millinery. Bristling loops of jet beads strung on wire are thickly set over the entire fronts of some dressy bonnets.

Hats are of two very distinct shapes, the large chapeau of velvet with turban-like crown, in all colors, and with long ostrich feathers twisted together and falling down at the back, comes first; then there is the pretty, plainly-trimmed felt hat with plain flat edge. Such hats are often turned up suddenly just in the middle in front, and others are put toward the back of the head, or a little on one side. Felt shapes, like toques, are set firm and low over the forehead. Three forms dominate the hats and those are: The Spanish, composed of a straight brim and square crown, and the helmet, this resembling what the French term "le casque de voyage" at the back and looking like a high collared in front. —N. Y. World.

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